

EUROPA NEWS



BULLETIN OF THE EUROPA STUDY UNIT

<http://www.europastudyunit.org/>



POST EUROPA



Europa Philately in all of its aspects:
 CEPT/PostEurop, EU Agencies, European Cooperation, NATO, Norden, sepac, EuroMed



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ESU MINIAUCTION #148 INSERT

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New Issues

Europa 2020

Ancient Postal Routes

SWEDEN ss

Issue date 30 April 2020



Old postal roads are a common theme for the countries within PostEurop. Long before all households in Sweden were given the right to receive mail several days a week, there were fixed mail routes. The one between Stockholm and Hamburg is one of the oldest and was an important link for news distribution to and from the continent. — from *Postnord.se* (Swedish Post)

Note: Only the first two stamps have the Europa logo.

DENMARK ss

Issue date 11 May 2020



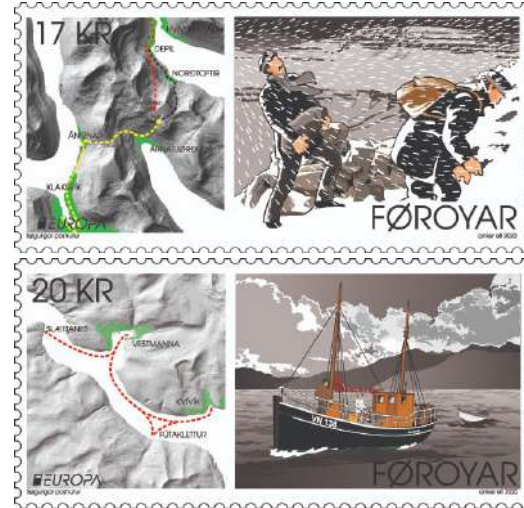
Quoting from Linn's Stamp news:

According to information from PostNord, the Europa souvenir sheet "focuses on Christian IV's establishment of the post office in 1624 and Denmark's first post route between Copenhagen and Altona/Hamburg."

Note: The central stamp does not have the Europa logo.

FAROE ISLANDS 2v

Issue date 27 April 2020



The following is excerpted from Posta, Faroe Islands:

Postal routes in the Faroe Islands have always been difficult and challenging. Formidable mountains had to be climbed and deceptive straits crossed to deliver the mail - and sometimes things went very wrong.

One of the most challenging postal routes on land was Klaksvík - Viðareidi, requiring hardy mail carriers to vanquish one of the most inaccessible mountain areas in the Faroe Islands. In November 1887, the first Faeroese postman fell off a cliff to his death. His route is marked in yellow.

A few decades later, two postmen survived a heavy snowstorm by building a shelter of rocks, then tearing it down and rebuilding it to stay warm. They survived. The red line on the map indicates the route they travelled.

The second stamp pictures the route to Vestmanna - Vágar islands. A treacherous strait claimed many boats and lives. The small proud mailboat "Ólavur" is still at anchor in Vestmanna, well maintained and fully functional despite its 90th anniversary this year.

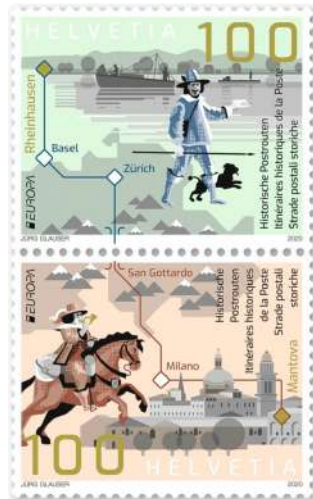
New Issues

Europa 2020

Ancient Postal Routes

SWITZERLAND 2v
se-tenant vertically
Issue date 7 May 2020

Thurn & Taxis



The design produced by Switzerland in cooperation with Germany depicts a postal route from 1627, printed in a vertically correlated form. The route ran from Rheinhausen in Germany, passing through Basel and Zurich, before reaching Milan and Mantua. It was operated by the House of Thurn and Taxis, a noble family from Lombardy who set up a courier service for the Republic of Venice in the 14th century.

The brothers Janetto and Francesco de Tassis (the Germanified form of Taxis) founded the postal service spanning Europe in 1490 on behalf of the later Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I. Their descendants ran the imperial post service from Brussels. The post riders were adventure seekers who encountered many dangers along the way. In the beginning, the postal charge was indicated as a figure on the envelope: on the front if it had to be paid by the recipient and on the back if it had already been settled by the sender. Later, postmarks were introduced, even before the emergence of the stamp in the 19th century.

— from *Swiss Post*

There are more Europa stamps teed up for our next issue, but as of press time their respective post offices haven't provided any background information. Maybe a result of Covid-19, or maybe just because they haven't been issued yet. More to come for sure in the next EN.

CZECH REPUBLIC 1v
Issue date 22 April 2020

Horse-drawn Carriage



In Czech countries, the development of postal services began with the advent of the Habsburgs. Regular mail, organized transport of messages on today's territory of the Czech Republic is associated with the election of Ferdinand I as Czech king and was formed even before Habsburg sat on the throne in 1526.

Ferdinand I used the services of the aristocratic family of Taxis, who since the end of the 13th century almost monopolized postal transport in northern Italy and much of Europe. The oldest postal route between Prague and Vienna, it led through Tábor and further to the village of Košice, where it split into two branches. The south was headed for Linz, the east branch led through Jindřichův Hradec and Slavonice further toward Vienna.

— from *Česká pošta*

POLAND 1v
Issue date 29 April 2020

The stamp shows a graphic representation of the postal route from Cracow, through Warsaw, and on to Gdansk on the northern border.

Postal carriers travelled on horseback and then proceeded on foot.

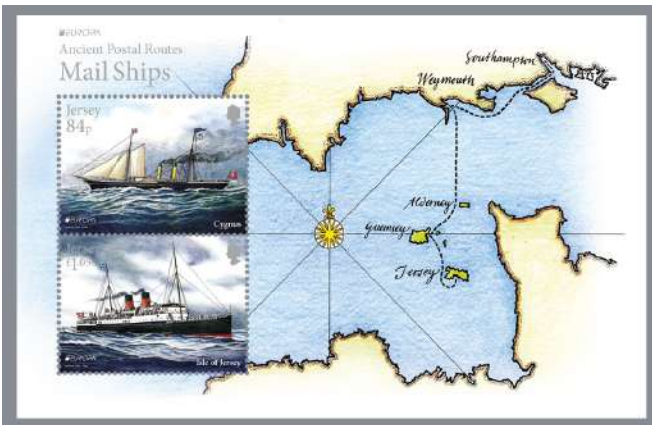


This is information gleaned from the stamp design. The Polish Post website offered no additional information.

New Issues
Europa 2020
Ancient Postal Routes

JERSEY 2v from a set of 6v and a ss of 2v
Issue date 7 April 2020

GUERNSEY 2v from a set of 6, also ss of 6v
Issue date 1 April 2020



Shown is the ss which contains all six individual stamps of the issue. Although the Guernsey Post Office calls this a Europa issue, only two of the stamps — 68p and 85p — actually carry the Europa logo.

The stamps depict the following mail and packet ships that sailed between Guernsey and the United Kingdom. Europa stamps are shown in bold:

- 50p: Earl of Chesterfield
- 68p: Ariadne**
- 70p: Antelope
- 85p: Alberta**
- 95p: Isle of Guernsey
- £1.02: Sarnia

The first mail ships set sail to-and-from Jersey in 1794, since then the island has been serviced by dozens of mail ships and passenger boats. A variety of vessels that span Jersey's mail ship history are depicted on this six stamp set.

— from Jersey Post

Although Jersey Post calls this a Europa issue, only two of the stamps — 84p and £1.05 — actually carry the Europa logo. The stamp designs show the march of technology over the years.

— from Guernsey Post

MONACO 1v
Issue date 6 May 2020



The stamp represents a messenger responsible for delivering mail in the 18th century. The background is a view of the Rocher (Rock of Monaco) at the time.

— from Monaco Office des Timbres

Remember Romania-in-Exile (EN# 454-10). Did you know that there are other Government in Exile stamps out there? Look for a follow-up article in an upcoming Europa News.

New Issues Europa 2020 Ancient Postal Routes

ISLE OF MAN 1v from a set of 6v; also a ms of 10 of the Europa stamps

Issue date
22 April 2020

400th anniversary of
the Mayflower



From the Isle of Man Post Office:

This set of six stamps tells the story of the Mayflower and the individuals involved within the pilgrimage. Each stamp depicts a key event and / or person in the history of the voyage and is designed to reflect the time period during which the pilgrimage occurred.

— continued from previous column

2020 marks 400 years since the Mayflower set sail from Plymouth, UK and on to discover the New World. The ship has become a cultural icon in the history of the United States and more than 30 million people can trace their ancestry back to the 102 passengers and ~30 crew aboard the Mayflower when it landed in Plymouth Bay, Massachusetts.

Each stamp in this set depicts a key event and/or person in the history of the voyage:

1st - The Departure of the Mayflower: After its departure from Plymouth, UK. This stamp pictures the ship amidst the stormy weather it faced at sea on its famous voyage.

EU - The Arrival at Plymouth Rock: (EUROPA) This stamp displays the Pilgrims as they prepare to step ashore at Plymouth Rock for the first time. The Mayflower can be seen anchored in the background.

Large - The Signing of the Compact: This stamp shows the Pilgrims as they sign the Mayflower Compact aboard the ship on 11 November 1620. The compact symbolized the establishment of an independent democratic government that still affirmed allegiance to the Crown of England.

RoW - The Peace Treaty: Displays the Pilgrims and the Wamponaog tribe chief Massasoit, as they ceremoniously sign a peace treaty. The treaty marked the beginning of a peaceful relationship; the Wamponaog taught the Pilgrims how to farm the land.

£1.85 - Myles Standish: This stamp depicts Myles Standish, our Manx connection within the issue. Myles was an influential and key member of the Mayflower voyage. He played a large role in the defense of the colony during its infancy. In 1621 he was elected by his fellows to act as first commander, a position he held for the remainder of his life.

£2.50 - The First Church in New England

New Issues

Europa 2020

Ancient Postal Routes

ROMANIA 2v issued in sheetlets of 5 values plus label. Also, ms of 2 sets se-tenant as shown below, in two versions with the order of the stamps reversed. Also a ss of 2v, imperforate limited edition.

Issue date 9 April 2020



So far, album makers have provided spaces for just one ms, but this year the images in the selvage are slightly different — note the coins behind the stagecoach. My guess is that this won't matter; you'll still get space for just one ms. And no space for the limited edition ss.

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA (Croat) 2v issued in ms of 8 stamps + label, and a ms of 1 set (shown)

Issue date 5 April 2020



The Roman legions were linked to Rome by the roads where the first post office took place. The Roman Messenger's Service, initially called *vehiculatio* later *cursus publicus*, was founded by Emperor Augustus between 27 and 20 BC. It was initially limited to civilian and military civil servants. The main directions of the roads were ordinary stations (*mansiones*) where passengers could spend the night and cells where horses or other cattle (*mutationes*) could change.

For Emperor Septimius Severus (193 - 211) *cursus publicus* was divided into two parts: the fast (*cursus velox*), who had saddled the horses, draft horse, mules and mules, and more types of circuits - chariot (*cursus velox*), or slow (*cursus claburalis*), which was served by a heavy car that could carry up to 500 kg of cargo.

The carts and the silver penny of the Roman consul L. Saufeius (152 BC) are the motifs on the stamps. The coin on the reverse shows Victoria riding a biga, and on the obverse the head of the goddess Roma. The coin is housed in the Franciscan Museum of the Monastery of St. Ante na Humcu, in the area that includes the very significant military road since the first century.

— from Hrvatska pošta Mostar

New Issues
Europa 2020
Ancient Postal Routes

NORWAY ss

Issue date 17 April 2020

Postal route from Christiania to Bergen.



"Very hazardous Road, passing Cliffs and Valleys, where it was not possible to ride, but where the Postal Farmers had to carry the Mailbags on their Backs," was the description of Vindhellavegen in Lærdal town.

In 1793, the road was finally upgraded, and Kongevegen was the first road between the east and the west. But the stretch at Vindhella was steep and hard for both horse and man to descend. In the 1840s, the road authority built a new road for horse and cart on high walls through the pass, and they added an extra curve to reduce the incline.

The narrow curves on high walls with a sharp incline has made Vindhellavegen one of the most beautiful road-related cultural heritage sites in Norway. Kongevegen has been named Norway's Most Beautiful Road award and it has won EU's highest cultural heritage award, **Europa Nostra**. Vindhellavegen contributed to this.

— from posten (Norway Post)

Don Smith has given us a nice little mini-auction for this issue. Check out lot #67. This is the kind of hard to find stuff that you will come across only by being a member of the ESU.

SLOVAKIA 1v reg + 1v self-adhesive from a booklet pane of 6

Issue date
30 April 2020

The Magna Via



After 1526, Hungary's Ferdinand I began to change the state administration of his country and to establish postal routes. In 1528 Buda and Vienna were connected via a route with 10 postal stations. However, it ceased to exist after a year when Buda was seized by the Turkish army. After 1531 it was necessary to provide a postal route between Bratislava and Vienna because the Hungarian Chamber moved its activities to Bratislava.

In 1552 the Court Postmaster, Matej Taxis, on the command of Ferdinand I, began the organization of a route from Vienna to Transylvania. Owing to the Turkish occupation of the southern territories, this important postal route passed through western and northern Slovakia to Košice and from there to the Transylvanian city of Sibiu.

When the emperor's authority over Transylvania ended in 1556, only the route from Bratislava to Košice remained almost unchanged during the entire 17th century. The development of the route through the 18th century resulted in the opening of stations in new regions. Originally individual postal stations were established every two miles of that time and included facilities that provided catering, accommodation, stables and harness service.

In 1999 the Association Magna Via was founded. Its role is to acquaint domestic and foreign visitors with the cultural and historical value of this great postal route.

— from POFIS (Slovak Post)

New Issues

Sepac 2020

Art from the State Collection

LIECHTENSTEIN 1v

Issue date 2 June 2020

Matt Mullican
Untitled
(Indian Banner: World), 1982



Liechtenstein chose contemporary art for their contribution. The artist is Matt Mullican, an American best known for combining performance, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, and video as a means of exploring the subjective through the intersection of communal signage and personal semiotics. A part of the “Pictures Generation”, Mullican decodes images and signs through diagrams, patterns, and written words. The artist has also been known to examine his own subconscious through hypnosis in his quest to understand patterns and how they may be broken. — from artnet

ISLE OF MAN 1v from a set of 10v, issued in two strips of 5v each

Issue date 16 March 2020

The Douglas School of Art



From their website:

“The Isle of Man Post Office presents a celebration in ten stamps of the principal artist-lecturers who inspired successive generations at The Douglas School of Art. While this year is the centenary of the school as a publicly funded educational establishment, its history extends back into the nineteenth century. Graduates of the school have earned a reputation for high achievement in many areas of art and design worldwide and all recognize their debt to the inspirational individuals who fostered their creative beginnings.”

— continued on next column

— continued from previous column



The Stamps & The Artists:

Top row “FIRST” (L to R):

John Miller Nicholson: *St Matthew’s Church 1882*; A leading advocate for the foundation of the school

William James Merritt: *Harvest Time 1906*; First Head of School 1880-84

David Mitchell Robertson: *Port St Mary 1907*; Head of School 1885-1909

Archibald Knox: *Liberty Tudric Vase 1902-05*; Student c1880-1890 and later Assistant Master

Peter Chisholm: *Peel Castle Against A Sunset c1920s*; Head of School 1909-1943

Bottom row “LARGE” (L to R):

William Hargreaves Whitehead: *Alderman SA Quirk 1945* © Gallery Oldham; Head of School 1943-1960s

Eric Houlgrave: *Cregneash 1964*; Tutor 1948-1980s

Norman Sayle: *Douglas Promenade Railing 1995*; Student 1954, tutor, then Head of School 1954-89. **The SEPAC Stamp.**

David Fletcher: *The Old Chapel 1990*; Tutor then Head of School 1978-1998

Ian Coulson: *The Old Art School 2020* © The Artist; Student 1968, tutor then Foundation Course Leader 1987-2016

New Issues

Sepac 2020
Art from the State Collection

FAROE ISLANDS 1v

Issue date
 27 April 2020

Moon Pigeons



The following is excerpted from Posta, Faroe Islands:

These fragile images on paper were created during the first part of the 19th century. They were originally mounted in a glass frame and hung up in a family living room. However, due to stove heating the frame fell apart and the sheets were preserved in an old Bible. They were then totally forgotten until they finally reappeared and were sold to the Faroese Art Society in 1954. A fifth and final picture later found its way to the Museum's collection as a donation from another branch of the family.

The artist was one of the family's ancestors, known as Díðrikur á Skarvanesi. Due to the pictures' age and artistic quality, Díðrikur must be considered the first Faroese artist, creating his works some hundred years before "Faroese art" became a recognized concept.

These five drawings are the only ones that we know with certainty were created by Díðrikur á Skarvanesi. They are made in gouache, i.e. water color with high pigment concentration as well as a white dye which solidifies the colors while dimming them at the same time.

Most of the birds in Díðrikur's gouaches are wild Faroese birds. The gouaches must also have been made in the Faroe Islands, because according to ornithologist Jens-Kjeld Jensen there is a white-speckled raven among the birds in the paintings, a species which was found in the Faroes at that time but is now extinct.

The pictures might probably have been created in the 1840s.

New Issues

Norden 2020
Local Mammals

NORWAY 1v

Issue date
 17 April 2020

Orca



Nature photographer Audun Rikardsen has published a book on whales – and takes the reader on a journey into the world of whales. He follows them closely 24 hours a day and in all weather conditions. Readers learn about all of the "winter whales" and the latest findings from whale research.

The killer whale is one of the main characters in the book and belongs to the top of the ocean's food chain. Most killer whales are found in Antarctica, but there are also around 3,000 in the Norwegian Sea and Barents Sea.

Killer whales are social animals that travel in pods and live in polygamous relationships: The male mates with multiple females. A pod can consist of anywhere between 4 and 40 whales and can stay together for several generations. Killer whales are known for their intelligence, which is particularly evident in the way they communicate.

—from *Posten (Nordic Post)*



TOP OF THE WORLD OF
STAMPS
 Official Philatelic Portal of the Nordic Countries

The Nordic Countries website, aka
topoftheworld.nu

is no longer active, and has been that way for well over a year.

Now comes word that the Nordic series will come to an end with this year's stamps. Are collectors being soaked and saying enough? Nearby, Alex Cwiekalo notes that SEPAC may be losing popularity. Maybe collectors can be fleeced for just so long.

Ditto for Europa issues.

New Issues

European Anniversaries and Events

MONACO 1v

Issue date
28 February 2020

30th Anniversary of the Council of Europe Anti-Doping Convention



The Council of Europe Anti-Doping Convention was signed in 1989 and entered into force on 1 March 1990. The Monegasque Anti-Doping Committee carries out essential prevention and monitoring efforts to ensure that sporting competitions remain ethical. Working in close cooperation with the World Anti-Doping Agency, the Monegasque body is a key player in promoting the fundamental values of sport.

— from Office des Timbres Monaco

CZECH REPUBLIC ss
SLOVAKIA 1v

Issue date 13 November 2019

30th Anniversary of the Velvet Revolution

Joint Issue



In the 1980s, the Marx-Lenin Communist project was in its last moments of existence and Gorbachev's attempt to square the circle by making the totalitarian system democratic was mere utopia. Real socialism was only sustainable in the way it was created — behind barbed wire with bayonets and batons.

Those weapons also marked the beginning of the regime's end in Czechoslovakia. On 17 November 1989 – the day to remember the Nazi violence of 1939, when police brutality ended a peaceful demonstration of students in Prague, it became apparent that Czechoslovakia would embark on a journey like the Polish Solidarność and civil rights activists in Eastern Germany.

Opposition demonstrations in Prague, Bratislava and other cities led to the abolition of the communist party. The dissident Václav Havel became President of the Republic and in June 1990, the first free elections were held after long decades of dictatorship. This all happened to the soundtrack of long-silenced singers Karel Kryl and Marta Kubišová... and the door to the world was opened in front of our nation.

— from POFIS (Slovak Post)

BULGARIA 1v in a ms of 2v+label, as shown

Issue date 12 December 2019

25 yrs of Diplomatic Relations between Bulgaria and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta (SMOM)



SMOM is considered a sovereign state and has Observer status at the UN, but is not recognized by the UPU.

New Issues European Sports

Turkish CYPRUS 1v

Issue date
12 March 2020

UEFA
Euro 2020 Soccer
Championships



The tournament, to be held in 12 cities in 12 UEFA countries, was originally scheduled to take place from 12 June to 12 July 2020. On 17 March 2020, UEFA announced that the tournament would be delayed by a year due to the 2020 coronavirus pandemic in Europe, and proposed it take place from 11 June to 11 July 2021.

The competition was postponed in order to reduce pressure on the public services in affected countries and to provide space in the calendar for the completion of domestic leagues that had been suspended. However, the tournament will still retain the name "UEFA Euro 2020."
— from Wikipedia

MONTENEGRO ss of 1v

Issue date 27 May 2019

Games of the Small States of Europe



This ss accompanies the single stamp that was described in EN# 454-18.

New Issues European Anniversaries

SLOVENIA 1v

Issue date
31 January 2020

Centenary of the Nature
Conservation Memorandum



The First World War put the brakes on nature conservation endeavors but, following the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, belief in the need for nature conservation revived in the new state that emerged after the war. In the spring of 1919 the General Assembly of the Museum Society for Slovenia established a Nature Conservation Section at the proposal of the naturalist Ferdinand Seidl.

On 20 January 1920 the new section drew up a document entitled Memorandum on Nature Conservation. The Memorandum was one of the first programmatic nature conservation documents in Europe and is still relevant today.
— from Pošta Slovenije

This one is a significant precursor to European Conservation efforts:

ARMENIA 1v

Issue date
26 December
2019

Civil Aviation



Not sure what this is exactly. Armenia Post says that it's a picture of an airplane against Mt. Ararat. Beyond that it's anyone's guess. The caption on the stamp says "AIRPLANE" (Well, duh!). At first I thought that it was an Airbus. The more I look at it though, the more I think it could be of Soviet design. I'd appreciate your thoughts.

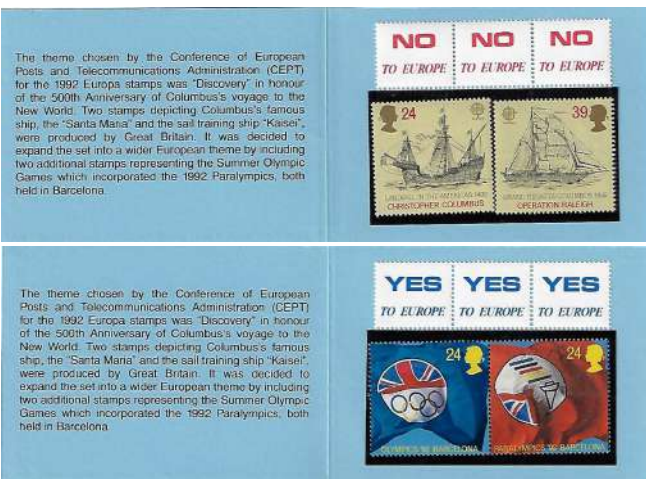
BREXIT — So Where Were We Back Then?

Don Smith told me about an interesting set of stamp booklets he had come across. They contained the 1992 Europa stamps, with tabs on the inside saying “NO to Europe” inside one of them, and “YES to Europe” in the other. This seemed as though it involved Brexit somehow, but the dates are obviously well before the recent vote. When he asked me “What is this all about?” I had no idea. So I asked if he would send them to me, which he promptly did.

I scanned the two booklets and show them below. The first scan is of the outside of the booklets (they are identical). They were made up as



a souvenir of a stamp show, which the cover identifies as the 17th North East Philatelic Weekend in Gateshead, England. The next two scans show the inside:



The inscription says that Great Britain issued four stamps simultaneously that year: two for Europa and two for the 1992 Summer Olympic Games and Paralympics held in Barcelona, Spain. One booklet held the Europa stamps, and the other the Olympic pair. Paradoxically, the Europa stamps were assigned the NO tag.

So, what was going on in 1992 that prompted this reaction? A lot, actually. 1992 was the year that the Maastricht Treaty was signed to further European integration. BBC News had a very comprehensive article in 2014 titled Britain and the EU: A long and rocky relationship. The following is condensed from that article:

When the European Coal and Steel Community was forged in 1951, Britain watched, and when the Treaty of Rome created the European Economic Community (EEC) in 1957, Britain again declined to join. By 1975, however,



things changed, and Britain came on board.

Even conservative Maggie Thatcher was ready to say Yes.

When put to a vote, 67% of Britons voted to join the EEC.

However, Ms. Thatcher became more critical of the agreements when it appeared that Britain was getting the short end of the stick in agricultural subsidies vs. the French. She negotiated a correction to this in 1984, but overall the 1980s saw a growing divide between Britain and Brussels. By now, the socialist Jacques Delors had taken the helm at the European Commission and was steering towards a more federal Europe and a single currency.

The Maastricht Treaty of 1992 involved huge transfers of power to the new European Union. Britain secured opt-outs from the single currency and the social chapter, but to the treaty's critics it undermined the British tradition of the inviolable sovereignty of parliament. By the early 1990s, many Britons were thinking that joining the EU had been a bad move, and these booklets are a piece of that history.

I was eager to add these items to my collection, but Don and I thought we should give our members a shot. **They appear in the current auction as lot #67.** They would make a fascinating page to supplement your collection of 1992 Europas. Go for it! ■



NEW ISSUES
with **SCOTT** catalog numbers

From Linns' March and April Special Editions
— Don Smith

- = position in proposed new HB outline (ref. EN# 404-12)



<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>SCOTT #</u>	<u>DATE OF ISSUE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>*</u>
Andorra (Spanish)	470	8-Nov-19	Admission to CE, joint w/Andorra (Fr) 815 EN455-7	2a
Austria	2829	8-Nov-19	Charles V, joint w/Luxembourg 1530	4a
Bulgaria	4926	12-Dec-19	Dipl. Relations w/S.M.O.M	3b
Cyprus	1315	9-Jul-19	EuroMed 2019 EN 453-4	1d
Cyprus	1317	10-Sep-19	Council of Europe 70th Anniv.	2a
Germany	3144-5	2-Jan-20	Beethoven EN 456-10 3144a ss, 3145 self-adhesive, 3145a bklt pane of 10	4a
Gibraltar	1739	8-Nov-19	Tunnels, joint w/Luxembourg 1528 EN 455-8	3b
Gibraltar	1740	12-Nov-19	Nature Reserves, se-tenant pair, joint w/Romania EN 456-1	3b
Greece	2887	9-May-19	Europa 2019 horiz. se-tenant pair, 2887f bklt pane of 2887c	1
Greece	2888-91	15-Jul-19	EuroMed 2019 EN 453-3 (2891b: bklt pane of 4, 2888a-2898a; ss of 4, 2891c)	1d
Greenland	816	21-Jun 19	Sepac 2019 EN 453-6	1c
Greenland	817-8	21-Jun-19	Europa 2019	1
Greenland	819-20	21-Jun-19	Europa 2019 self-adhesive (820a bklt pane of 12, 6 each 819-20)	1
Hungary	4539	10-Jan-20	European Water Polo Champs. EN 456-9	3c
Ireland	2226-7	11-Apr-19	Europa 2019, 2227a ss w/both values	1
Jordan	2408-12	8-Jul-19	EuroMed 2019 (2412 imperf ss) EN 453-5	1d
Kazakhstan	774b	24-Jun-16	Charles de Gaulle with others	5c
*Kazakhstan	789	21-Oct-16	Europa 2016, se-tenant pair with Expo 2017 emblem	1
Kazakhstan	794	16-Nov-16	Battle of Moscow 70th Anniv se-tenant pair, joint w/Russia 7785	3b
Kazakhstan	903	19-Dec-19	Europa 2019, ss of 3 903a-c	1
Kosovo	410-12	9-May-19	Europa 2019, 412 ss of 1	1
Kosovo	415	12-Jun-19	NATO, ss of 4 a-d EN 456-7	2b
Slovenia	1344	8-Jul-19	European Volleyball Champs. printed in sheets of 6 + 3 labels EN 454-9	3c
Slovenia	1345	8-Jul-19	EuroMed 2019	1d

*Editor's Note re. Kazakhstan #789: My supplier sent me a horizontal pair like Scott shows. I asked for a vertical pair, because Lighthouse (and I presume KaBe) provided a space only for a vertical pair.



AUGUST 20-23, 2020
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
CO-SPONSORS:
APS/ATA/AFDCS

GREAT AMERICAN STAMP SHOW

As of 1 May this event was still on. Hoping for the best, we've requested an hour for a meeting of Europa Study Unit members, plus any others who want to drop in. Make sure you have a reservation!

Article

European Center for Nuclear Research (CERN) — Hans Snellenberg

ESU member and Grenzenloos guru Hans Snellenberg recently sent me the following note:

Dear Dana,

As a collector of stamps of all kinds of European cooperation, e.g. European institutes, I always look for stamps I can use in my collection.

From CERN, the European Institute of Nuclear Research in Geneva, there are only known a few stamps.

That is why it was special when I discovered last week, out of a Prestige Booklet called "Inventive Britain" issued by Royal Mail on 19th February 2015, containing 4 different sheetlets, one which has a connection with this institute.

Re. the first item, I didn't make the connection at first, but then Hans reminded me that The World Wide Web was invented by British scientist Tim Berners-Lee in 1989 while working at CERN. I missed that one also, and will now add that stamp to my personal database (and want list). Hans mentioned that there aren't many stamps having to do with CERN, so I thought I might share here those others of which I am aware. Does anyone know of any more?

1960: Inauguration of the Eurotron D'Urso cancel # V-67

1966: CERN Publicity Switzerland, Scott #475



1976: CERN Publicity France Scott # 1503



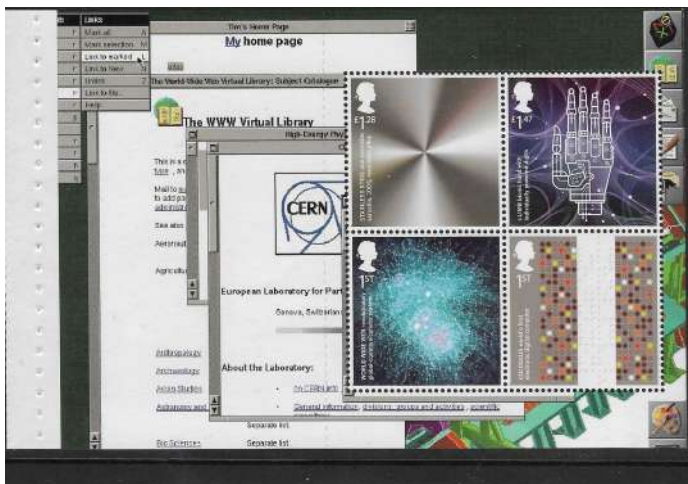
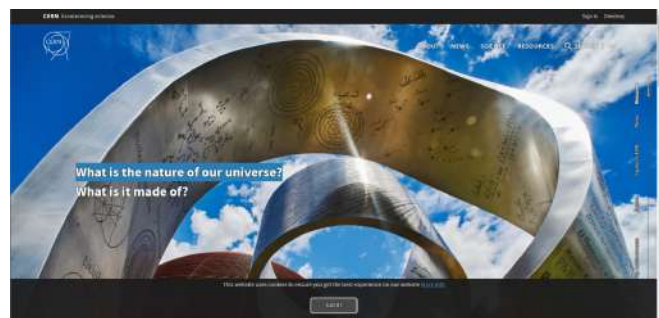
2004: CERN 50th anniversary Spain Scott #3322

2011: Large Hadron Collider Grenada Scott# 3812-13 (souvenir sheets; see EN# 408-15)

2014: 60th anniversary Austria Scott #2493

2014: 60th anniversary Spain Scott #3949

More information about CERN, its history and activities, can be found at their website home.cern.



Moreover in 2010 Cyprus issued a special miniature-sheet "Cyprus through the Ages", containing 8 stamps. One of the stamps showed the signing of the Accession to the EU in 2004, issued on 1st October 2010.



Kind regards from the Netherlands,
Hans Snellenberg

Editor's Page

I certainly hope that this issue finds all of you well during this difficult time. One silver lining: I'm getting more time to work on my collection, and as I make new album pages I'm looking at stamps I must have bought back during the Carter administration. Now the challenge is to get my butt out of the chair periodically.

With that in mind, there are lots of free apps you can find that will put a little alarm clock on your computer desktop. Set it for an hour or so. When it goes off, get up and walk around for awhile, or just do something else that you've been putting off — like cleaning up your workbench.

And there's always that "Honey-Do" list. While scrounging through my desk I found that Round Tuit I thought I'd lost. So ... now I can work on all those things that I'd put off until I got a Round Tuit.



My eye doctor has a "20/20" rule: every 20 minutes, look away from what you're doing and look around for 20 seconds, preferably at something 20 feet away or more. This causes your eyes to change focus. My mother had terrible eyes and passed them on to me (thanks, mom). I have myopia, amblyopia, dystopia, diplopia, and strabismus. Whew. Just writing all that makes me tired.

My eye doctor is also a visual training specialist. I made his acquaintance in my mid-30s, and he took me on as a challenge. After 3 years he gave me depth perception. It was like a whole new world opening up. He says he's used my case when he goes on the lecture circuit, but so far I've gotten no royalties. Not even lovely parting gifts. But I do have my sight, which comes in handy for looking at stamps.

Our Handbook Editor Alex Cwiekalo says he's also up to his eyeballs in what we used to call "Action Items" back in IBM.:

"Glad to see from everyone's emails that you're all finding time to work on your collections, etc. Out here in Ohio I've been "balls to the walls" working on our ESU HB – AND LOVING EVERY MINUTE OF IT. However, my wife's dining room table (still) looks like a bomb fell on and around it. It wasn't much of an issue when we could get out and do things. Now that we have so much quality time together, well, ... Plus, have to work on the old taxes now and then. Y'all take care and stay safe ..."



Director Caroline Scannel has many activities. She edits the *Old World Archaeologist* and has an awesome UPU collection. She reports "I'm working on my stamps, a quilt and . . . the cats are driving me crazy! Tapping me on the shoulder when I'm at the computer. Sitting next to me meowing. Insisting on me petting her and him. I wish these two would get a hobby." Caroline, their hobby is you.

Don has another auction ready, Tonny is digging into his Miscellaneous Box (see separate article). Stay well everybody! ■

Feature

Fun with PowerPoint — Dana Roper

If all you have is a hammer, every problem looks like a nail. — Kaplan's Law and others.

Every time I come across an instance of someone making up album pages using MS Word, I ask myself “Why not use PowerPoint?” Admittedly, everyone seems to have a copy of Word or a Word clone, but no one seems able to use it well. And for good reason. Word is a powerful tool, but it is what computer programmers call a kludge (pronounced “klooj”), i.e., a hodgepodge of computer code that is hard to understand and hard to maintain. Microsoft did a massive re-write of the underlying code years ago, but they still had to maintain the inelegant interface that very few have had the time or inclination to master. Its purpose is to create a document. That’s it.

The problem is the paradigm the application was written for. A stamp album is not so much a document as it is a presentation. Each album page is like a slide in a slideshow, which is the paradigm that PowerPoint was written for. (Granted, most exhibits are now laid out like a document, but step back from the frames and gaze at the layout, and you’re looking at a PowerPoint presentation in slideshow mode.)

When I first starting creating my own pages I used a drafting board and an IBM Selectric typewriter which let me change fonts a little. With the IBM PC came Personal Editor, Chart Master, and other clumsy apps. But then came a revolutionary app called Lotus 1-2-3. That was a spreadsheet with graphics, but, together with a word processor, you had the beginnings of an office suite of applications. Fast forward a decade and we have Microsoft Office. There is MS Excel for keeping an inventory and/or want list (I use it for both) and your choice of Word or PowerPoint to create album pages. For me it’s no contest. PowerPoint wins.

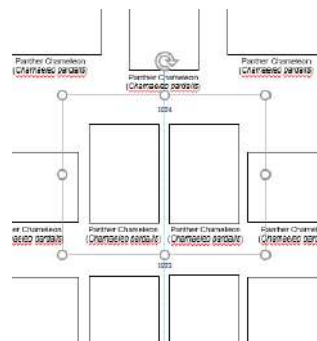
The nicest thing about PowerPoint is that, once you have created your boxes, you can move them around at will. You can also group them (or any portion), copy them, rotate or flip them around, and when you have something you like, arrange them with precision.

Years ago I wrote an article for Steve Luster describing the basics of how to create a PowerPoint stamp album page (see EN# 400-16), which I then presented at the 2009 National Topical Stamp Show. My technique is to start with a template, then move the final layout to an all-blank page (i.e. nuthin’. No borders, no titles, just a plain blank page) and let the computer do the rest.

So, a mixed blessing of the Covid-19 stay-at-home procedure is that I’ve been cranking out album pages. My wife has a good eye for design, and when I can’t decide on a layout, I’ll sometimes ask for her opinion. In this case I had a lot of potential designs, and I was really on the fence. So, PowerPoint and spouse to the rescue.

Once I had a candidate design, I simply gave PowerPoint the “Duplicate Slide” command. I then grouped sets of stamps together, and moved them around, each time creating a another slide. (I was mounting a group of stamps from France and French Andorra publicizing European Conservation from 1972 to 1974). What I showed my BW (Beautiful Wife) was the slide sorter and slide presentation views. The candidates are shown on the next page as slides 16 thru 23. Only one would be the winner. Which would you pick?

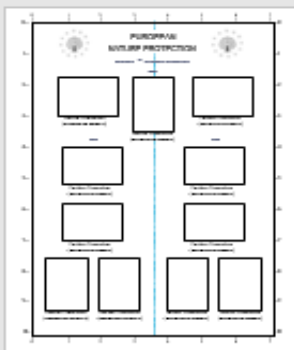
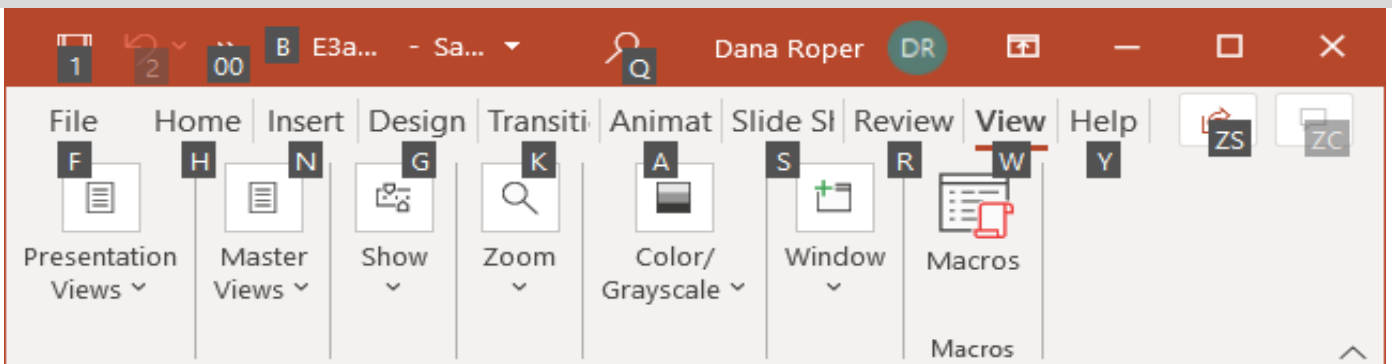
What makes this task so easy is PowerPoint’s “group” feature. Once you have a potential grouping of stamps, then you literally can group them together and move them around. A typical group looks like this:



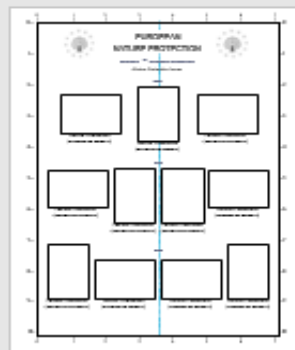
And you can then move the pair of stamps with their descriptions all around on the page. And you needn’t stop there. You can make groups of groups ad infinitum. Neat.

By the way, the layout we chose, and the finished product, are on the following pages. I really like the way it came out. ■

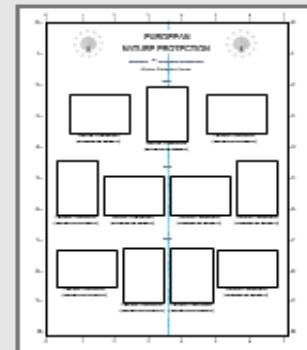
Feature
Fun with PowerPoint — cont'd



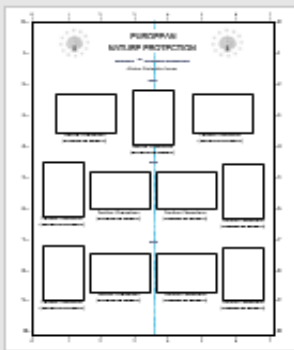
16



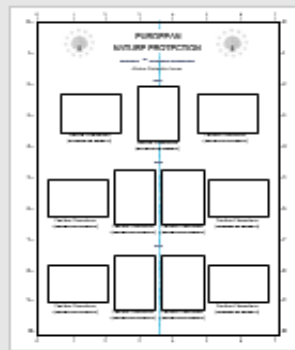
17



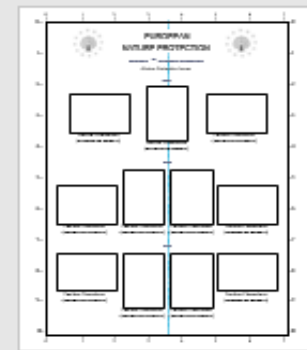
18



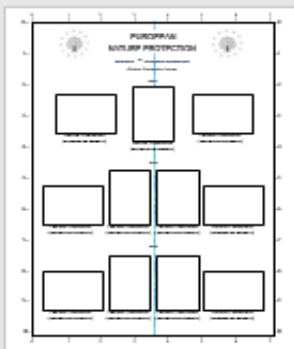
19



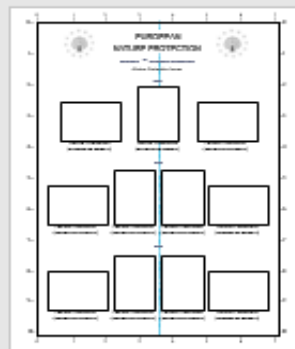
20



21



22



23

These are the options for laying out this group of stamps. I didn't go so far as to add pictures of the stamps, I just wanted comments on the layout.

We finally settled on layout #20. We both liked the balance. Lighthouse would probably have used layout #23, but sometimes they surprise me.

The finished product is on the next page. It was fun getting someone else involved in my activity.

Stay hunkered down and well, everyone.

Feature
Fun with PowerPoint — cont'd



EUROPEAN
NATURE PROTECTION



FRANCE ■ FRENCH ANDORRA

Nature Protection Issues

1972



Golden Eagle
(*Aquila chrysaetos*)



Eurasian eagle-owl
(*Bubo bubo*)



Atlantic Salmon
(*Salmon*)

1973



White Stork
(*Ciconia ciconia*)



Eurasian Blue Tit
(*Cyanistes caeruleus*)



Lesser Spotted
Woodpecker
(*Dendrocopos minor*)



Raccoon
(*Procyon*)

1974



European Bison
(*Bison bonasus*)



Alpine Citril Finch
(*Carduelis citrinella*)



Eurasian Bullfinch
(*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*)



Giant Armadillo
(*Priodontes giganteus*)

The finished product. ■

Feature

Miscellaneous Box — Tony Van Loij

Everyone is staying busy it seems, but I need at least another 3 months (but NOT virus) just to catch up a little. I've done some rummaging myself, and came across these items.



The Romanian cover was for the 25th anniversary of the opening of the European Philatelic Academy and used one year later for their annual meeting.

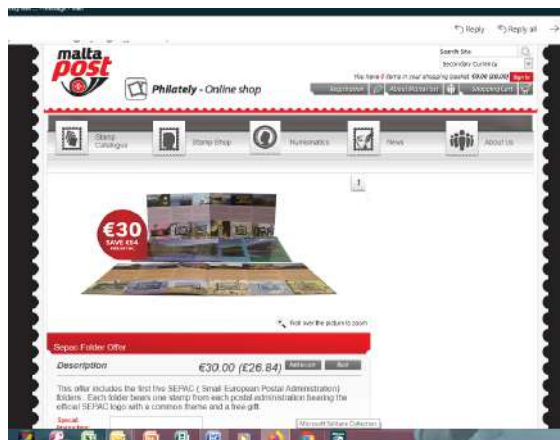
As for the postcards.- I had a friend in the club here (he went into the beyond) who was a member of the European Philatelic Academy. I have some more items of that meeting in 2003. He probably got them for being a member.

Stay all healthy my friends.



Feature

SEPAC News



From Director Alex Cwiekalo comes this email from Malta Post. They are offering the first five SEPAC folders for the amazing price of €30.

That's a deal, as the folders usually go for €15-€20 apiece. The offer says that it's a savings of €54, which is conservative.

Alex says that maybe the folders aren't selling all that well. Perhaps. For anyone who's been thinking of buying these items, now is certainly the time! ■

“The Luster Chronicles”
The 1959 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster, Part 7

The Luster monographs resume this issue with part 6: the 1959 Europa stamps from the Netherlands.

NETHERLANDS

The Netherlands issued two Europa stamps with the same design in 1958. They were denominated 12 C and 30 C. The 12 C stamp was printed in scarlet red and the 30 C stamp was printed in olive green.

The stamps were designed by Walter Brudi with some help by S. L. Hartz on the Netherlands stamps. Both stamps depict the common design. The stamps were offset printed on un-watermarked paper, perforated 12¾ x 14, by Joh. Enschedé en Zonen, Haarlem, in sheets of 100 stamps. 24,252,000 of the 12 C stamp and 3,203,300 of the 30 F stamp were printed.

The D’Urso Catalogue assigned the number 60 to the 12 C stamp and the number 61 to the 30 C stamp.

In addition to the complete set of 2 stamps, the D’Urso Catalogue lists blocks of 4 stamps (60/61).

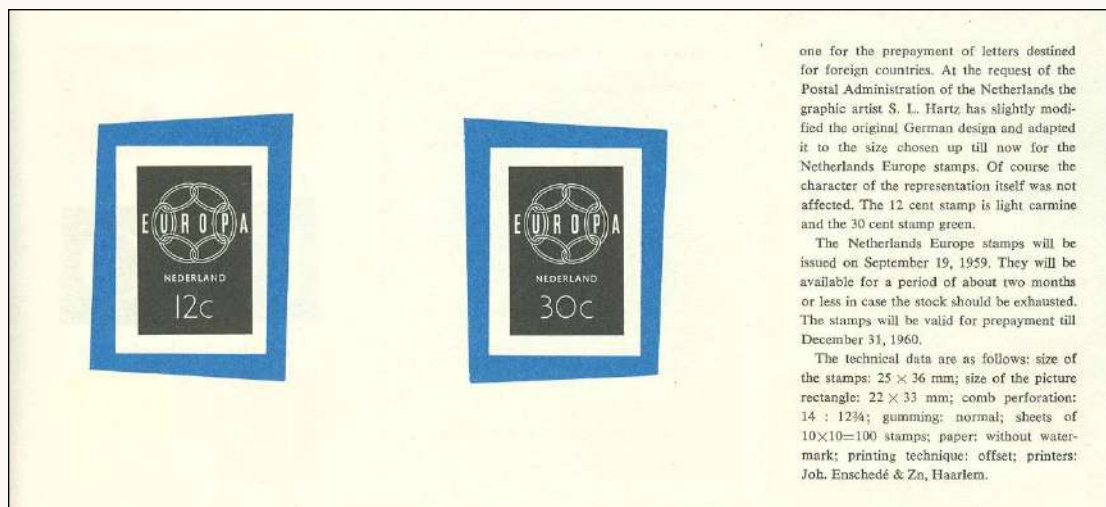
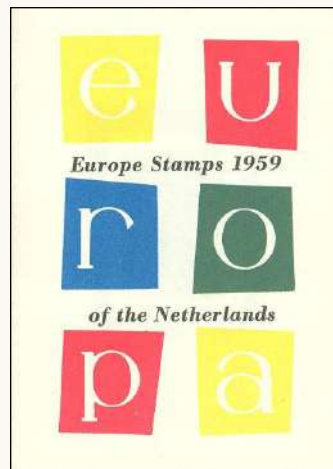
D’Urso lists one variety for each value of the set. For the 12 C stamp it is known with a small circle under the letters “LA” in the word “Netherlands (60A). For the 30 C stamp the circle of links (chain) is broken at the upper right (61A).

First day covers were also produced for this issue. They are listed with the cancel illustrated below (60/61B). Maximum cards were also listed in the D’Urso Catalogue (60/61C).



“The Luster Chronicles”
The 1959 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster (cont’d)

The Netherlands issued several items of interest to philatelist. The first is a publicity photo containing both values of the 1959 Europa set. The item in the center is the cover of a publicity folder issued by the Netherlands. When the folder is opened up you can see the complete set of stamps plus some background on the issue. The folder also contains the technical detail of the stamps.



**“The Luster Chronicles”
The 1959 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster (cont’d)**

This first item is the complete set of the Netherlands’ 1959 Europa set in blocks of four.



Below is a commercially used cover franked with a pair of the 30c stamps and a single 12c stamp. The cover was sent from the Netherlands to an address in California.



“The Luster Chronicles”
The 1959 EUROPA Stamps — a Monograph by Steve Luster (cont’d)

Another cancel seen on Netherlands’ 1959 Europa first day covers is the one shown here. This cancel is from the Gravenhage Philatelic Bureau, and is dated September 19, 1959.



Below is an addressed, registered cover, franked with the complete set of the Netherlands’ 1959 Europa stamps. The cover was sent to Germany. The stamps are canceled with the official first day of issue cancel and the cachet illustrated in the D’Urso catalog.



This concludes Part 7. The next installment will continue with the stamps of Switzerland . ■

The Back Page



OK, I admit this is a stretch that would make Spandex ashamed, but here goes anyway. You noticed of course that the PowerPoint feature in this issue used stamps that publicized European Conservation (see page 18). This AP photo just struck me when I saw it. It's a swan and her cygnets chillin' on a pond in the Vacaresti nature park — an urban protected area — in Bucharest, Romania, Monday, 27 April 2020, while we humans are hunkered down in our bunkers. (AP Photo/Vadim Ghirda)

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